



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application Of:)	Atty. Docket No.: 47079-00117
)	
Shridhar P. Joshi)	Examiner: Alex P. Rada
)	
)	Group Art Unit: 3713
)	
Application No.: 09/965,163)	
)	
Filed: September 27, 2001)	
)	
For: Gaming Machine With Sweepstakes)	
Entry Dispenser)	

DECLARATION OF SHRIDHAR P. JOSHI

I, Shridhar P. Joshi, hereby declare:

1. I received a Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1991. I received a Bachelors of Science Degree in Electronics Engineering from the University of Bombay in India in 1988.

2. I have been employed by WMS Gaming Inc. of Chicago, Illinois since 1991 and have held the following positions: software engineer (1991-95), product research manager (1996-99), senior manager of market research (1999-2000), and director of strategic product development (2000-present).

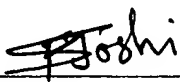
3. I am the inventor of the subject matter claimed in the above-identified patent application. I have reviewed the Office Action dated January 31, 2002, as well as the prior art references used in the Office Action to reject the claims. The references include, among other things, U.S. Patent No. 4,669,730 to Small ("Small").

4. In my opinion, Small is nonanalogous prior art relative to my invention.

5. First, Small is in a different field from that of my endeavor. Although both Small and my invention involve sweepstakes, the context of Small is vastly different from the context of my invention. Small relates to automated teller machines (ATMs) and point-of-sale (POS) terminals and a sweepstake-type game for stimulating use of these terminals. The game is incidental to the primary use of the terminals for performing financial transactions. In contrast, my invention relates to gaming machines, such as slot machines, whose primary use is to conduct a game involving random selection of a game outcome. The game may, for example, be slots, poker, keno, bingo, or blackjack. This is a distinctly different field from Small's field of ATMs and POS terminals.

6. Second, Small is not reasonably pertinent to the problem with which I was concerned, because Small logically would not have commended itself to an inventor's attention in considering my objective of making gaming machines more exciting and entertaining. My invention encourages the use of gaming machines. I did not look to, and do not believe an ordinary artisan would look to, the field of ATMs or POS terminals in considering my objective.

7. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


Shridhar P. Joshi

2/25/02
Date